

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claim Status

Claims 29-32 are pending in this patent application. Applicants note, with appreciation, that claim 32 has been allowed.

Applicants also wish to thank Examiner Abrams for taking the time to discuss the outstanding Official Action and the issues raised therein during the telephonic interview conducted on May 6, 2003. Applicants respectfully traverse the grounds for rejection, and request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections of claims 29-31 in view of the following.

BM Engineering Document

The Official Action includes a request that Applicants state their position on the use of the BM Engineering Document as prior art, and disclose any new information that has come to their attention regarding that document.

As discussed in detail in U.S. Application Serial No. 09/013,495, from which priority is claimed, Applicants maintain that the BM Engineering Document is not a printed publication under 35 U.S.C. § 102. Applicants also confirm that they have no new information regarding the BM Engineering Document.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112

Claims 29-31 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, for alleged indefiniteness. The apparent basis for this rejection is that the terminology employed in claim 29 allegedly “indicate[s] use of a single daughter board” (Office Action at page 2). As was discussed during the interview, however, claim 29 recites a memory card connector “*comprising* a daughter board.” (emphasis added) Because the term comprising is an open-ended transitional term, a memory card connector *comprising* a daughter board means a memory card connector having one or more daughter boards. The application as originally filed provides support for a memory card connector having one or more daughter boards at, for example, Figure 3.

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PATENT

Since the stated basis for rejection – *i.e.*, that claim 29 is directed to a single daughter board – is incorrect, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claims 29-31, under 35 U.S.C. § 112.

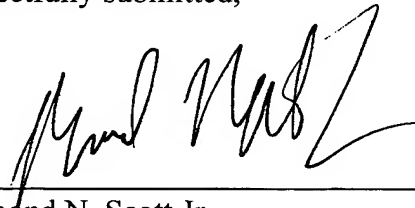
Request for Interference

In view of the foregoing, applicant respectfully requests declaration of an interference in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.607 as indicated in the preliminary amendment filed January 14, 2002.

Conclusion

For the foregoing reasons, applicant respectfully submits that the present application is now in condition for allowance and declaration of interference. Reconsideration of the office action and an early notice of allowance and declaration of interference are respectfully requested. In the event that the examiner cannot allow the present application for any reason, the examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned attorney, Raymond N. Scott Jr. at (215) 564-8951, to discuss resolution of any remaining issues.

Respectfully submitted,



Raymond N. Scott Jr.
Registration No. 48,666
Joseph Lucci
Registration No. 33,307

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Woodcock Washburn LLP
One Liberty Place - 46th Floor
Philadelphia PA 19103
Telephone: (215) 568-3100
Facsimile: (215) 568-3439